Regarding the consideration of eliminating all Morse Code testing requirements,
I have a slight preference to maintaining it because of tradition. And, I particularly
support the idea of at least a 5 WPM code test for Extra Class licensees.

People who claim that learning the code keeps them from applying for a license
tells me that they either aren't that interested or motivated individuals in the
first place.

Therefore, I don't believe that eliminating the code testing requirements is going
to, in fact, generate large numbers of new licensees. Frankly, many people seem
to thrive on having something to complain about.

One of the down sides of eliminating the code requirements is that there would be
even more pressure to eliminate all testing altogether.

Those who want to use the CW mode can learn it on their own regardless of the
licensing requirements, however.

Change is the foundation in all aspects of life and to keep ham radio vibrant,
we must keep up with current technology.

While I have a great deal of concern about the "dumbing down" of the hobby
which has occurred over the years, and the proliferation of the "shack on a belt"
ham, I do feel that the more you put into something, the more you value it.

I would like to see, if the elimination code testing is adopted, is additional
testing on current computer technology and digital communications to fill the
gap. In other words, to update requirements for the times.

It is clear to me that maintaining some level of difficulty in the licensing
requirements will help in providing a level of quality rather than quantity
so that there are not a large number of licensees who have demonstrated little
technical knowledge.

For the record, I've been licensed almost 50 years and took all the tests including the Extra class at FCC offices.